

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANA 04341 130557Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
OMB-01 IO-13 SAJ-01 /078 W
----- 105887 /20

R 121400Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9826
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 4341

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, KE, KS, CH
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI
REF: JIDDA 6934 (NOTAL)

1. DURING DEC. 8 CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI, HE INFORMED ME THAT HE WILL BE TRAVELLING TO COMMUNIST CHINA AND NORTH KOREA ON OR ABOUT DEC. 20 FOR WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS "PROTOCOLAIRE" (SHIKLIYYAH) VISITS TO THESE COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THAT THE INVITATION TO COMMUNIST CHINA HAD BEEN EXTENDED FOR LAST SUMMER, BUT HAD BEEN POSTPONED BECAUSE OF THE RECENT EARTHQUAKES THERE.

2. COMMENT: CHINESE/YEMENI RELATIONS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GOOD, A RESULT OF DISCREET AND LOW-KEY CHINESE EFFORTS HERE FOR MORE THAN A DECADE. THE VISIT TO NORTH KOREA MUST BE VIEWED MORE IN THE CONTEXT OF CHINESE/YEMENI RELATIONS THAN IN THAT OF CLOSE NORTH KOREAN/YEMENI RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE ON A SMALL SCALE ALSO BEEN PRESENT IN YEMEN FOR A LONG PERIOD. IN THE MEAN-TIME, WE INTEND TO REPLY TO JIDDA'S 6934 REQUESTING INFORMATION FOR THE SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY THERE, BUT IT MAY BE WORTH PASSING ON TO THEM THAT THEY HAVE AGAIN LOST ANOTHER GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.
SCOTES

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: greeneet
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